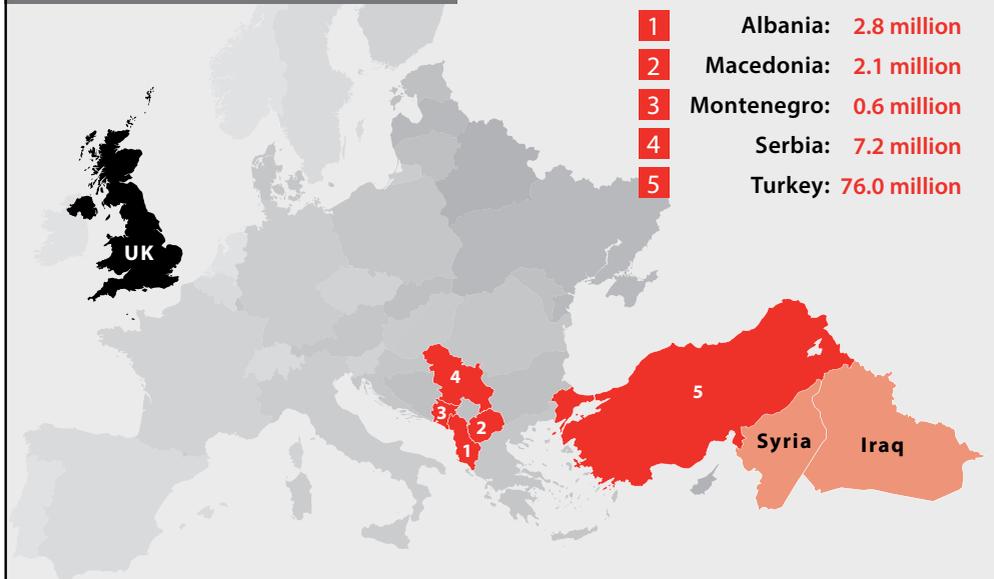
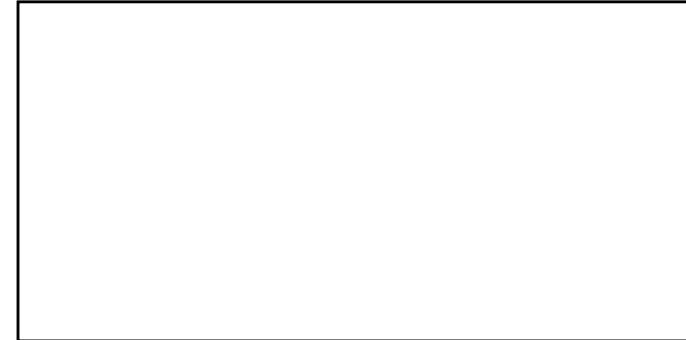


Countries set to join the EU



OFFICIAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE REFERENDUM ON 23 JUNE 2016

Referendum Communication



THE EUROPEAN UNION AND YOUR FAMILY: **THE FACTS**

We are sending this to you as someone who cares about the future of Britain and fair access to our public services.

This document is to help you make your decision in the referendum on Thursday 23 June.

FACT: Britain's official bill for EU membership is £19 billion per year or **£350 million every week – the cost of a new hospital.**

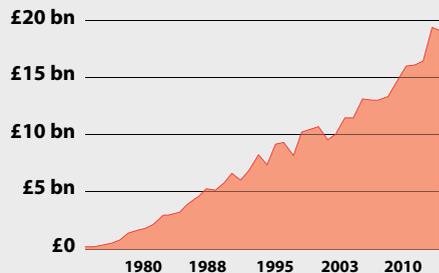
You have to decide whether what we get back from the EU is worth this.

FACT: Five new countries are in the queue to join the EU – **Albania, Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia, Turkey.**

You have to decide whether this will help Britain, Europe, and fair access to public services.

The BBC says that 'Leave' supporters are much more likely to vote than 'Remain' supporters because few are happy with the EU. It is important that people vote in this crucial referendum whatever their view.

£ billions sent to the EU



The EU already costs us £350 million a week

– enough to build a new NHS hospital every week. We get less than half of this back, and have no say over how it's spent.

Imagine the question was the other way round:

Imagine the vote on 23 June is whether we should *join* the EU – with the Euro crisis, the migration crisis, and new countries like Turkey and Serbia being lined up as new member states.

Would you vote to join the European Union?

If not, Vote Leave on 23 June.

THE UK AND THE EUROPEAN UNION: THE FACTS

On 23 June we face a choice: is it safer to stay in the EU permanently or to vote 'leave' and take back control? It's a big decision – and there may not be another chance to vote for years. Here are some facts:

- **Over a quarter of a million people migrate to the UK from the EU every year.** This is the equivalent of a city the size of Newcastle every year. EU law means all members must accept 'the free movement of people'. Many immigrants contribute to our society. They also have an impact on public services. Experts disagree on the overall effect.
- **The EU is expanding to include: Albania, Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia, and Turkey.** When we joined, there were just 9 member states. Now there are 28, the most recent being Romania, Bulgaria and Croatia. Five more countries are in the queue to join, including Turkey, totalling **89 million people**. When they join, they will have the same rights as other member states.
- **The European Union has changed enormously since the UK joined the 'Common Market' in 1973.** The EU has taken control over more and more areas such as our borders, our public services, and VAT. The need to prop up the Euro means that more and more powers will be taken by the EU.
- **EU law overrules UK law.** This stops the British public from being able to vote out the politicians who make our laws. EU judges have already overruled British laws on issues like counter-terrorism powers, immigration, VAT, and prisoner voting. The new 'deal' David Cameron negotiated recently can be overturned by the European Court after our referendum.
- **The EU costs us at least £350 million a week.** That's enough to build a new NHS hospital every week. We get less than half of this money back, and we have no control over how it's spent – that's decided by politicians and officials in Brussels, not by the people we elect.
- **You don't have to be a member of the EU to trade with it.** Countries across the world trade with the EU without being members of it. Switzerland is not in the EU and exports even more to the EU than we do. Some big banks and multinationals think the EU is in their interests. Small and medium-sized businesses think differently. Only 6 per cent of UK firms export to the EU, yet *all* have to obey EU rules.
- **While we're in the EU, the UK isn't allowed to negotiate our own trade deals.** This means we currently have no trade deal with key allies such as Australia, New Zealand, or the USA – or important growing economies like India, China or Brazil. Instead of making a deal which is best for the UK, we have to wait for 27 other countries to agree it. Most small businesses say that Britain should take back the power to negotiate our own trade deals which we cannot do inside the EU.
- **There are risks in voting either way.** Experts, politicians, and businesses are divided. People have to weigh up the risks and potential benefits of each course of action for themselves.

Want to know more? Visit voteleavetakecontrol.org/choice or text **FACTS** to **88802** (standard charges apply).